

Branston to Lincoln

Using the stagecoach 2 bus



A linear walk of up to 9.5km (6 miles)



Introduction

Use the bus to access this linear walk through some of the villages close to Lincoln.

By choosing where you get off and on the bus you can vary the length of the walk.

The Stagecoach 2 bus is a low floor vehicle that operates from Lincoln to the villages of Washinborough, Heighington and Branston.

To see a full bus timetable go to www.lincsbus.info and search for the Stagecoach 2 service. You can also get to Branston on the Brylaine Interconnect 5 or the Stagecoach 31.

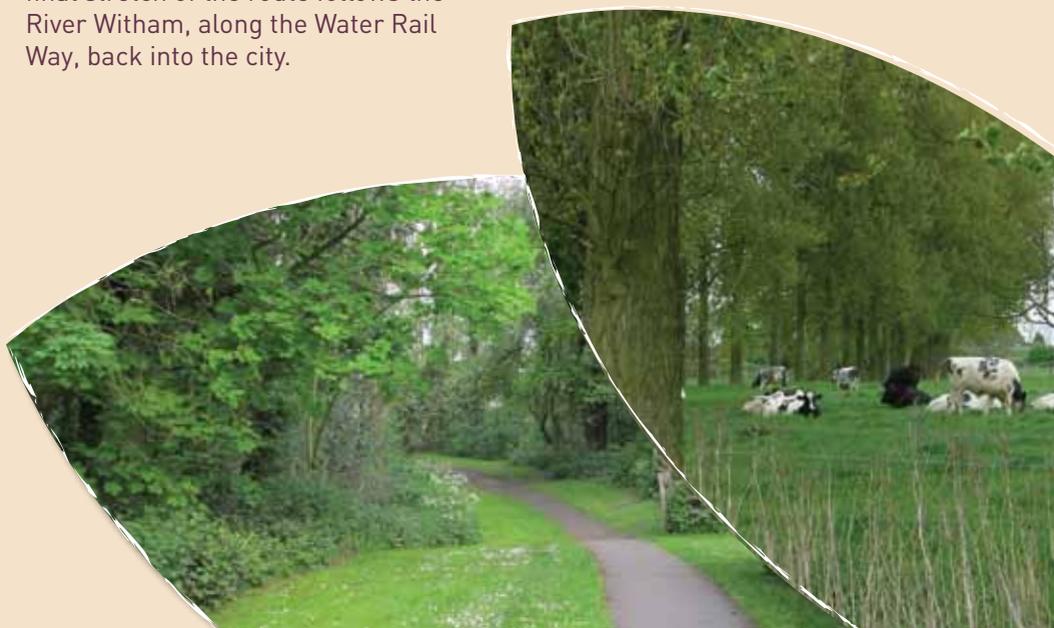
If you walk the whole route from Branston you will take in the villages of Branston, Heighington and Washingborough before the final stretch of the route follows the River Witham, along the Water Rail Way, back into the city.



You can use the bus to access many of the walks promoted in our other walk leaflets.

For more walks and information go to our website at lincolnshire.gov.uk/countryside

If you like to plan your own walk routes why not try our countryside access map, also on the website, which shows all the county's public rights of way.



The Walk

1 Get off the bus on Station Road, close to the junction with the High Street. At the crossroads turn right and walk down the hill for 250m.

2 Turn right onto Paddock Lane, a restricted byway. Follow the footpath straight ahead beside the stream for approximately 600m to the edge of the village. Continue straight ahead along the field edge.

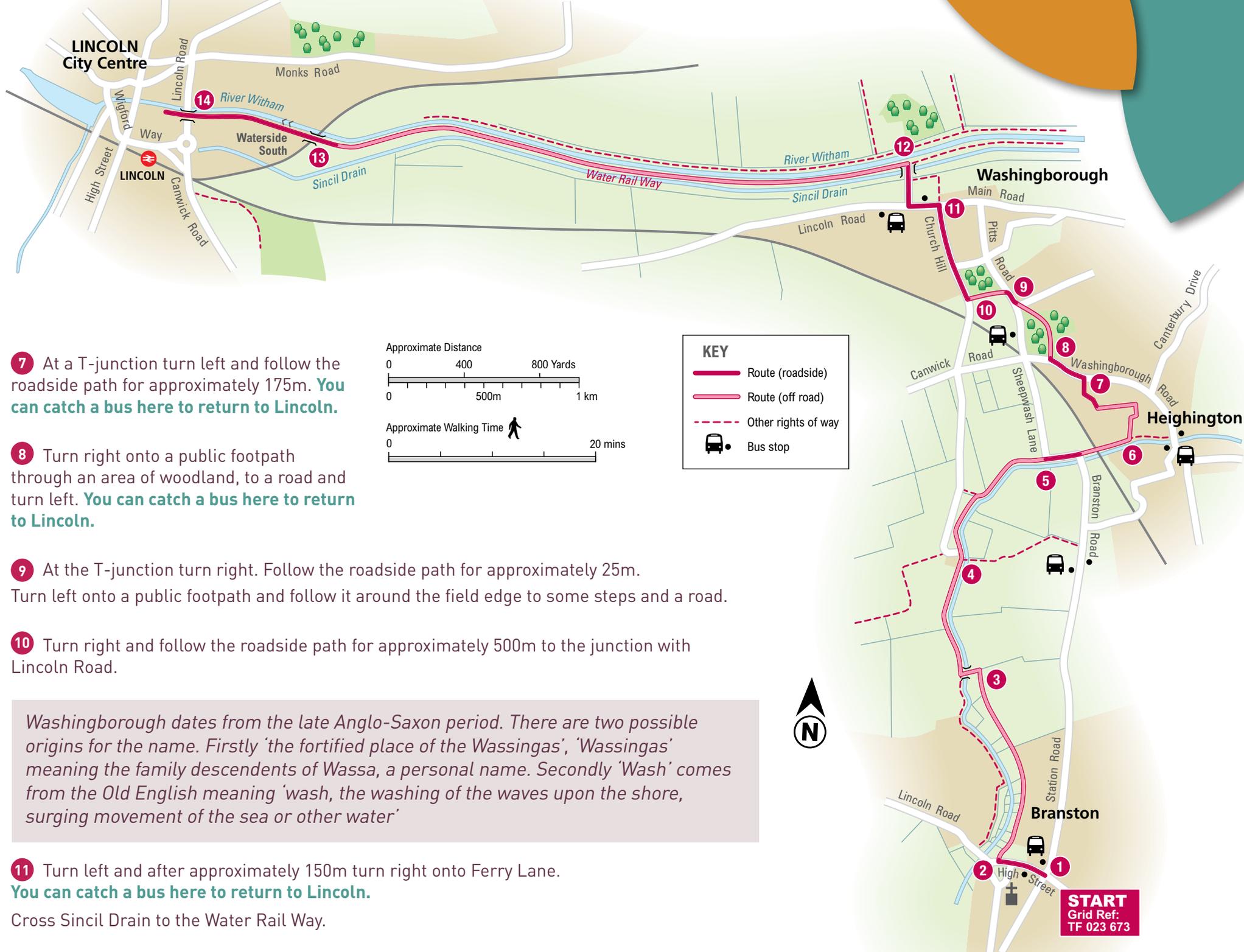
3 At the field corner and junction of footpaths turn left. Cross the bridge, turn right and follow the path beside the stream.

4 At a junction of paths, in front of a house, continue straight ahead beside the stream. Cross the bridge and follow the footpath by the stream by bearing right. Follow the path to a road.

5 Turn right and follow the roadside path and cycleway for approximately 150m. Cross the road with care and follow the footpath beside the stream towards the railway line. Climb the steps **and cross the railway line with care.** Follow the path beside the stream for approximately 150m ,through part of Heighington village.

The name Heighington means 'the farmstead, village associated with Hyht'. The first documentary evidence of a settlement at Heighington appears in 1242.

6 Turn left onto a public byway. At the junction with a tarmac path turn right and then after approximately 15m turn left and follow the path across a driveway and then beside and behind some houses. At a junction with a road turn right.



7 At a T-junction turn left and follow the roadside path for approximately 175m. **You can catch a bus here to return to Lincoln.**

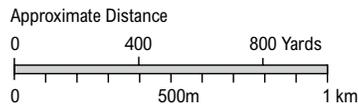
8 Turn right onto a public footpath through an area of woodland, to a road and turn left. **You can catch a bus here to return to Lincoln.**

9 At the T-junction turn right. Follow the roadside path for approximately 25m. Turn left onto a public footpath and follow it around the field edge to some steps and a road.

10 Turn right and follow the roadside path for approximately 500m to the junction with Lincoln Road.

Washingborough dates from the late Anglo-Saxon period. There are two possible origins for the name. Firstly 'the fortified place of the Wassingas', 'Wassingas' meaning the family descendents of Wassa, a personal name. Secondly 'Wash' comes from the Old English meaning 'wash, the washing of the waves upon the shore, surging movement of the sea or other water'

11 Turn left and after approximately 150m turn right onto Ferry Lane. **You can catch a bus here to return to Lincoln.** Cross Sincil Drain to the Water Rail Way.



KEY

- Route (roadside)
- Route (off road)
- - - Other rights of way
- Bus stop

START
Grid Ref:
TF 023 673

The Water Rail Way is a 33 mile multi-user route linking Lincoln and Boston. It uses disused railway lines and quiet roads. Long stretches of it run beside the River Witham and it is dotted with interesting sculptures along its length.

12 Turn left and follow the Water Rail Way into Lincoln.

Follow the Water Rail Way for approximately 2.8 km (1.75 miles) to a viewing platform on the edge of a car park.

After approximately 0.75 mile you will pass the site of a Bronze Age Barrow cemetery on your left. Slight mounds can still be seen today. The River Witham has played an important part in people's lives throughout history.

A number of prehistoric and later artifacts have been found in or close to the river, including the Witham Shield. Dating from the Iron Age the shield was made of bronze with small decorative pieces of red coral from the Mediterranean.

13 Follow the tarmac path along the edge of the car park and next to the river.

Walk in front of the buildings to join a tarmac path beside the river and along Waterside South.

Walk past Stamp End lock.

The railway bridge over the river and road is probably the oldest iron box girder bridge in the world and is still in use today. It was constructed in 1903 by the Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire railway.

14 Cross the dual carriageway using the bridge and continue straight ahead to return to the city centre.



Be a responsible walker

Please remember the countryside is a place where people live and work and where wildlife makes its home. To protect the Lincolnshire countryside for other visitors please respect it and on every visit follow the Countryside Code. Thank you.

- Be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, and take litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people

Most of all enjoy your visit to the Lincolnshire countryside.

This leaflet is one in a series of walk leaflets produced by Lincolnshire County Council's Countryside Access Team to help you explore and enjoy the County's countryside.

If you would like this leaflet in an alternative format or language please contact us.

Lincolnshire County Council

Countryside Access Team

Tel: 01522 782070 Minicom: 01522 552055

Email: countryside_access@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Web: lincolnshire.gov.uk/countryside

If you have enjoyed these walks and would like information on other walking routes in Lincolnshire then please visit our website.

If you encounter any problems whilst on these walks, such as an overgrown path or a broken sign post, please let us know so they can be corrected.

We would also welcome your comments and suggestions on the walk and leaflet to help improve future editions.





Walk location: Branston is 6 miles south-east of Lincoln.

Starting point: Junction of Station Road and High Street, Branston.

Grid reference: TF 023 673.

Post code: LN4 1LH.

Public Transport: There are 3 buses which can be taken from Lincoln bus station to Branston.

These are the Stagecoach bus no. 2 and the no. 31, as well as the Brylaine Interconnect 5.

For times and more information call Traveline on **0871 200 2233** or visit:
www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/busrailtravel
or **www.lincsbus.info**

Ordnance Survey maps for the area: Explorer 272 Lincoln.
Landranger 121 Lincoln & Newark.

Walk length: 9.5 km (6 miles) which will take approximately 3 hours to complete at a leisurely pace. The walk can be shortened by catching the bus from/to either Heighington or Washingborough.

Type of walk: The walk uses tracks, field paths, roadside paths and the Water Rail Way. The walk is level but may be uneven and muddy in places. There are no stiles on this walk.

Refreshments: Pub, cafe and shops in Branston. Pubs and shops in Heighington. Pubs and shops in Washingborough.

